ANNUAL REPORT
(103rd)

The Victoria General Hospital

1969

The Honourable Mr. V. de B. Oland
Lieutenant-Governor of Nova Scotia

To His Honour:

I have the honour respectfully to submit herewith the one-hundred and third Annual Report of the Victoria General Hospital at Halifax.

I have the honour to be

Your obedient servant,

R. A. DONAHOE
Minister of Public Health

The Honourable Mr. R. A. Donahoe, Q.C.
Minister of Public Health,
Province of Nova Scotia

Sir:

We have the honour to submit to you the One-Hundred and Third Annual Report of the Victoria General Hospital, covering the period January 1st, 1969, to December 31st, 1969.

H. R. Wyman
Chairman, Board of Commissioners

101-03398/

MINISTER OF PUBLIC HEALTH

THE HONOURABLE MR. RICHARD A. DONAHOE, Q.C.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

H. R. Wyman, Esq. Chairman

J. S. Robertson, M.D.

D. W. Clark, Esq.

A. N. Sarty, Esq.

A. D. Birdsall, Esq.

C. B. Stewart, M.D.

J. H. LeBrun, Esq.

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

* C.M. Bethune, M.B.E., B.Sc., M.D., C.M., Administrator

M.R. Macdonald, M.D., C.M., D.P.H., Administrator

H.T. Hart, R.I.A., Administrative Assistant

H.J. Churchill, Director of Accounting Services

D.R. Miller, Personnel Officer

J.A. Myrden, M.D., C.M., F.R.C.S.(C), Director of Tumour Clinic

Miss F.B. Gass, B.Sc., R.N., Director of Nursing

Miss J. MacLean, R.N., B.N., Director of Nursing Education

Mrs. G. I. Grant, B.Sc.N., Director of Nursing Education

Miss J.A. Stewart, B.Sc., P.Dt., Director of Dietetics

Miss K. Kinley, Ph.C., Chief Pharmacist

Miss M.T. Gillis, B.Sc., R.N., Supervisor of Out Patient Department

R.F. Horne, Maintenance Manager and Chief Engineer

W.C. Houlihan, Supplies Officer

* Retired, March 31, 1969

DEPARTMENTS

Department	Head of Department
MEDICINE	R. N. Anderson, M. D., C. M., F. R. C. P. (C), C. R. C. P. (C)
PREVENTIVE MEDICINE	M. R. Macdonald, M. D., C. M., D. P. H.
SURGERY	G. W. Bethune, B. Sc., M. D., C. M., F. A. C. S. (C), F. R. C. S. (C)
GYNAECOLOGY	W. R. C. Tupper, B. Sc., M. D., C. M., F. A. C. S. F. I. C. S., F. A. C. O. G., C. R. C. S. (C)
UROLOGY	C. L. Gosse, B. Sc., M. D., C. M., F. A. C. S. F. I. C. S., C. R. C. S. (C)
RADIOLOGY	J. S. Manchester, M. D., C. M., C. R. C. P. (C)
RADIOTHERAPY	R. M. Cunningham, M. D., D. M. R. T., C. R. C. P. (C)
PSYCHIATRY	R. O. Jones, B. Sc., M. D., C. M., F. A. P. A. F. R. C. P. (C)
NEUROSURGERY	W. D. Stevenson, M. D., M. S., F. R. C. S. (C)
ANAESTHESIA	C. C. Stoddard, M. D., C. M., F. A. C. A., F. I. C. A., C. R. C. P. (C)
PATHOLOGY	D. O. W. Waugh, M. D., C. M., M. Sc., Ph. D., C. R. C. P. (C)
BACTERIOLOGY	C. E. vanRooyen, M. D., Ch. B., D. Sc., M. R. C. P., F. R. C. P. (C)
DENTAL SURGERY	F. W. Lovely, D. D. S., M. S., F. R. S. H.

ANALYSIS OF HOSPITAL SERVICE FOR THE YEAR 1969

SERVICE	PATIENTS DISCHARGED	PATIENTS IMPROVED	DIED					TOTAL DAYS STAY	AVERAGE DAYS STAY	NO. OF CONSULTS REC'D	% OF CONSULTS REC'D
			UNDER 48 HRS.	OVER 48 HRS.	TOTAL DEATHS	AUTOPSIES	% OF AUTOPSIES				
SURGERY A	344	332	4	8	12	7	58.33	5,515	16.0	144	41.86
SURGERY B	520	496	3	21	24	8	33.33	7,576	14.6	225	43.27
SURGERY C	496	477	3	16	19	11	57.89	6,843	13.8	247	49.80
SURGERY D	561	525	9	27	36	21	58.33	8,633	15.4	231	41.18
BREAST SURGERY*	35	31	1	3	4	2	50.00	516	14.7	25	71.43
PLASTIC SURGERY	262	256	1	5	6	4	66.67	3,291	12.6	80	30.53
NEUROSURGERY	921	873	19	29	48	42	87.50	10,073	10.9	308	33.44
UROLOGY	1,060	1,048	3	9	12	4	33.33	14,067	13.3	438	41.32
GYNECOLOGY	1,096	1,085	-	11	11	4	36.36	8,874	8.1	633	57.76
ORTHOPEDICS	327	325	-	2	2	2	100.00	8,006	24.5	145	44.34
E. E. N. T.	447	447	-	-	-	-	-	5,292	11.8	175	39.15
PSYCHIATRY	147	147	-	-	-	-	-	3,577	24.3	111	75.51
MEDICINE	2,631	2,355	85	191	276	150	54.79	43,802	16.7	1,483	56.37
PRIVATE PATIENTS	4,722	4,652	6	64	70	24	34.29	67,746	14.3	1,947	41.23
TOTAL	13,569	13,049	134	386	520	279	53.65	193,901	14.3	6,192	45.63

* Effective April 1, 1969, Breast Surgery became included in Surgery C.

Mr. H. R. Wyman
Chairman
Board of Commissioners
Victoria General Hospital
Halifax, Nova Scotia

I have the honour to submit the 103rd Annual Report of the Victoria General Hospital for the year ending December 31, 1969. As Administrator, this is the first time that I have had this honour.

On March 31, 1969, Doctor C. M. Bethune retired as the Hospital Administrator, after serving in that capacity for twenty-four years and at the same time completing a total of thirty-eight years of association with the Victoria General Hospital.

To Doctor Bethune, go our best wishes for many happy years of retirement and a sincere expression of appreciation for his devoted service to the Victoria General Hospital.

The year 1969 has been a year of activity and change. The renovations to the Victoria Building have been completed and most of it has been occupied. The remainder will be occupied as more nursing staff becomes available. Patients are now housed in the Centennial and Victoria Buildings only.

The total bed capacity is now 875.

Plans for the future of the present Out Patient Department facilities and the use of the Pavilion are being studied. Also, thought has been given to the long range needs of the Victoria General and its relation to future community and provincial health care requirements.

All Hospital personnel continued their loyal and effective service to the patients.

Special mention must be made of our loyal nursing staff who carried on, often under very trying conditions, especially during the summer months when there always seems to be a shortage of nursing personnel. During the coming year, it is hoped that planning to meet this perennial problem will be done, so as to relieve the burden on our nursing staff.

The Active and Courtesy Medical Staff gave their usual high levels of medical care to our patients.

Doctor R. C. Dickson, formerly Head of the Department of Medicine, resigned this post to devote his full time to his duties as Professor of Medicine and Chairman of the Department, Dalhousie University. He was succeeded by Doctor R. N. Anderson, whose appointment has been very well received. Doctor Dickson remains as a Senior Physician on our staff.

Doctor A. L. Murphy, who was Chief of one of the Surgical Services for a number of years, retired from the Active Medical Staff and with him go our best wishes for the future and thanks for many years of devoted service.

Worthy of note is the fact that the first Renal Transplant operation was done in the Victoria General Hospital August 1969.

A new Haemodialysis Unit (Artifical Kidney Unit) was opened during the year.

The General Intensive Care Unit is operating at capacity. One-half of this Unit was given over to use as a Coronary Care Unit. The Respiratory Unit was also moved to this location.

The facilities of the Victoria General Hospital are being used on an increasingly larger scale for teaching, especially, for the undergraduate and post-graduate medical education.

The Residency Training in the various medical specialties is now under the direction of Dalhousie University, but the Victoria General is recognized in all the specialties for such training by the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada.

It is interesting to note, that in addition to training medical students, student nurses, internes, and residents, the Victoria General also has training schools for X-Ray and Radiotherapy technicians, Inhalation Therapists, Food Supervisors, Dietary Internes, O. R. Technicians and Anaesthetic Technicians, and provides facilities for clinical training for Certified Nursing Assistants and nursing students at Dalhousie University.

It is with much regret that I report that Miss Jean MacLean, R.N., B.N., Director of Nursing Education, has submitted her resignation to be effective on June 12, 1970. With her go our thanks for the valuable service rendered to the School and Hospital.

With the advent of the Two-Year Diploma Course, the service component of the student training will cease and, while this will mean we will have to increase our regular nursing establishment, yet the shorter course, in time, will compensate for this.

Miss Roxie Ford, R.N., retired as Nursing Supervisor, after many years of valuable and devoted service.

SUMMARY OF WORK

Number of patients treated	- Inpatients	13,569
	- Outpatients	11,751
	- Emergencies	27,566
	TOTAL	52,886

Number of patients attended Tumour Clinic	5,259
Average hospital days stay per patient	14.3
Average daily occupancy	534
Total number of deaths	520
Total number of deaths within 48 hours	134

OPERATIONS

General Surgical	2,184
Neurosurgical	2,133
Urological, including Cystoscopics	2,759
Anaesthetics Administered	10,689

STAFF

Full-Time Employees		1,288
Student Nurses		347
Doctors on Staff	- Active	141
	- Courtesy	151
Internes and Residents		100

PHARMACY

Prescriptions to Inpatients, approx.	70,000
Prescriptions to Outpatients, approx.	35,000

BLOOD SERVICE

Number of Blood Transfusions	2,399

E.E.G. AND E.K.G.

Electroencephalograms	1,931
Electrocardiograms	15,083

DENTAL PROCEDURES 2,355

DIETARY

Meals served	- Inpatients	732,312
	- Outpatients	3,531
	- Staff	511,441
	TOTAL	1,247,284

SOCIAL SERVICE

Number of patients served 2,148

Chaplaincy Service provided by the Hospital Chaplains and the Clergy of all denominations was much appreciated by the patients and the Hospital.

A Clinical Pastoral Education Course, under the direction of Reverend R.J.R. Stokoe, has been instituted at the Victoria General Hospital.

The Victoria General Hospital Volunteer Services and the Auxiliary continue to render fine service to the patients and each year see an expansion of their efforts.

This Annual Report would be incomplete without a sincere thanks to:

The Medical Staff for their fine cooperation during the year;

The Honourable Minister of Health, Members of his department and other governmental

departments, especially the Department of Public Works and the Department of Finance and Economics;

The Nova Scotia Hospital Insurance Commission for their excellent cooperation;

The Members of the Board of Commissioners for leadership, encouragement and direction, not only to the Administration but to all members of the staff;

Finally, to all members of the dedicated staff who have worked so loyally and hard, often under adverse conditions due to the renovations.

M. R. MACDONALD, M.D.
Administrator

DEPARTMENT OF MEDICINE

DISCHARGES:

Firm I	466	
Firm II	466	
Firm III	446	
Firm IV	410	
Firm V	367	
Firm VI	390	
Rheumatology	88	
TOTAL		2,631

Consultations:

TOTAL	1,483

DEPARTMENT OF SURGERY

DISCHARGES:

General Surgical Services	1,956	
Plastics Service	262	
Orthopaedics Service	327	
TOTAL		2,545

Operations:

TOTAL	2,184

DEPARTMENT OF NEUROSURGERY

Admissions	1,365
Discharges	1,268
Operations	2,133

DEPARTMENT OF GYNAECOLOGY

Total number of patients admitted to the ward	1,169
Total abortions	291
Diagnosed malignant diseases (new and return)	251
Total patient visits to Out-Patient Department, (including Post-Op. Clinic 210)	1,045
Total number of patient visits to Tumour Clinic	1,423

DEPARTMENT OF OTOLARYNGOLOGY

DISCHARGES:		
Surgical cases	182	
Medical cases	96	
TOTAL		278

Out-Patient cases:		
Regular clinic - new	346	
Regular clinic - return	702	
Tumour clinic - new	12	
Tumour clinic - return	129	
TOTAL CLINIC CASES		1,189

DEPARTMENT OF OPHTHALMOLOGY

Clinic patients	4,173
Private patients	403
Patients discharged during period	169
Total number of surgical operations	105

DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHIATRY

Number of patients admitted to In Patient Service	429
Number of consultations answered from other Services	290
Number of new patients seen in Out Patient Dept.	733
Total visits made	8,639
Day emergencies	1,083
Night emergencies	979

DEPARTMENT OF DIAGNOSTIC RADIOLOGY

Number of patients	63,288
Number of examinations	89,813

DEPARTMENT OF UROLOGY

Endoscopic examinations	2,144	
Transurethral resections	201	
Open operative procedures	414	
TOTAL		2,759

DEPARTMENT OF ANAESTHESIA

Anaesthetics administered:		
General	10,332	
Spinal	219	
Regional	138	
TOTAL		10,689

DEPARTMENT OF PREVENTIVE MEDICINE

No. of staff x-rayed		1,667
No. of outpatients x-rayed		10,919
No. of hospital patients x-rayed		11,378
No. of hospital admissions		13,578
No. of visits by new employees to the Immunization Clinic		713
No. of Immunization Procedures at the Immunization Clinics:		
Regular weekly clinics	3,313	
Special clinics:		
Influenza vaccine (Hong Kong)	478	
Typhoid and Paratyphoid A & B	68	
PPD (Heaf) tests	349	
Int. PPD and PPD_2 tests given (Dr. Service)	395	
BCG vaccinations (Dr. Service)	55	
TOTAL		4,658

No. of physical examinations done on Dietary Staff 206
Approximate number of ill staff seen 756
No. of communicable diseases reported 272

Salmonellosis - During the year there was an outbreak of Salmonellosis, in which S. Typhimurium was the causative organism. At the same time, a lesser number of persons became infected with S. Blockley, S. Saint Paul and S. Thompson.

DEPARTMENT OF RADIOTHERAPY

No. of Teletherapy (X-Ray and Cobalt) treatments	21,842
No. of Teletherapy (X-Ray and Cobalt) patients ...	796
No. of Radium treatments	125
No. of Radium patients	123
No. of Strontium treatments	9
No. of Strontium patients	5
No. of Isotope treatments	49
No. of Isotope patients	3,310
No. of Isotope tests	3,294
No. of Radioactive Chromic Phosphate	4
No. of patients examined and not treated, including reviews	809

NOVA SCOTIA TUMOUR CLINIC

Clinic Attendance Record

Service	Total Number of Patients
Breast	1,153
Haematology	450
Gynaecology	1,423
Neurosurgery	96
Ophthalmology	33
Orthopaedics	26
Otolaryngology	145

Service	Total Number of Patients
Paediatrics	7
Urology	238
Surgery A	204
Surgery B	203
Surgery C	1,120
Surgery D	161
TOTAL	5,259

New Cases of Malignancy

Site	Total Number of Patients
Carcinoma buccal cavity and pharynx	36
Carcinoma digestive system	94
Carcinoma respiratory system	66
Cancer female reproductive system	215
Carcinoma brain and nervous system	9
Carcinoma bone	1
Carcinoma connective tissue	4
Carcinoma eye	5
Lymphoma	19
Leukemia	12
Carinoma skin	82
Carcinoma male genital	47
Carcinoma thyroid	9
Carcinoma urinary organs	44
Carcinoma biliary passages and liver	3
Primary unknown	8
TOTAL	654

CLINICAL BACTERIOLOGY

EXAMINATIONS	UTS	IN PATIENTS		OUT PATIENTS		REF'D IN		TOTAL CLINICAL	
		NO	UTS	NO	UTS	NO	UTS	NO	UTS
Autog Vaccine	10	--	--	2	20	-	--	2	20
Blood Culture	6	5,237	31,422	252	1,512	-	--	5,489	32,934
Conjunctive Cult.	5	109	545	89	445	-	--	198	990
Fungus Cult.	7	1,836	12,852	85	595	-	--	1,921	13,447
Miscellaneous Cult.	6	7,794	46,764	711	4,266	-	--	8,585	51,030
Miscellaneous Smear	2	28	56	18	36	-	--	46	92
Sputum Culture	6	5,076	30,456	347	2,082	-	--	5,423	32,538
Sterility Autoclave or Supplies	1	312	312	4	4	-	--	316	316
Routine Throat Cult.	5	772	3,860	252	1,260	-	--	1,024	5,120
Throat Culture Staph. & Strept.	4	112	448	--	--	-	--	112	448
Disc. Sensitivity Prim. Direct	1	--	--	--	--	-	--	--	--
Disc. Sensitivity Prim. Indirect	2	--	--	--	--	-	--	--	--
Disc. Sensitivity Secondary	4	13,924	55,696	1,368	5,440	-	--	15,284	61,136
Urine Culture	6	11,673	70,038	1,244	7,464	-	--	12,917	77,502
Cysto 2 Urines	8	18	144	--	--	-	--	18	144
Cysto 3 Urines	9	15	135	--	--	-	--	15	135
Strept. Grouping	2	387	774	77	154	-	--	464	928
Bacterial Counts	2	153	306	15	30	-	--	168	336
Microscopic Exam	2	21	42	--	--	-	--	21	42
Identification	2	--		--	--	-	--	--	--
Antibiotic Level	5	38	190	--	--	-	--	38	190
Animal Inoculation	6	1	6	1	6	-	--	2	12
Tube Dilution Sens.	5	22	110	--	--	-	--	22	110
Nose Cultures	5	54	270	3	15	-	--	57	285
Serological Ident.	2	2	4	1	2	-	--	3	6
TOTAL		47,584	254,430	4,461	23,331	--	--	52,045	277,761

PHARMACY

The dispensing and compounding may be summed up as follows:

Prescriptions to bedpatients	70,000 approx.
Prescriptions to outpatients and student nurses	34,147
Prescriptions to medical doctors	1,500 approx.
Prescriptions to staff	1,240
Solutions made	20,000 Litres
Lotions and emulsions made	500 Litres
Ointments made	100 Kg.
Sterile irrigating solutions made	1,620 Litres
Special sterile injections made	250
Number of stock items	2,132

EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT

Public patients	19,905	
Private patients	1,409	
Return visits	1,610	
Patients treated and admitted through Emergency	4,642	
Total number of patients treated		27,566
Ambulance calls		3,187

BLOOD SERVICE

Number of units of blood ordered	21,466
Number of units of blood used	7,500
Number of patients transfused in hospital	2,390

E.E.G.

Number of private outpatients	906	
Number of private inpatients	27	
Number of semi-private inpatients	213	
Number of public inpatients	630	
Number of public O.P.D. Clinic	155	
Total number of patients		1,931

E.K.G.

Electrocardiograms:		
Ward	9,623	
Private in-patients	2,289	
Private out-patients	2,312	
Out Patient Department	854	
Tumor Clinic	3	
Kidney Unit	1	
Student Health Services	1	
TOTAL		15,083

CENTRAL SUPPLY

Treatment trays issued	118,022
Catheters, syringes, etc.	368,366
Solutions	55,924
Sterile dressings, etc.	105,522
Autoclave loads	10,360

PATHOLOGY

Tests performed for the Victoria General Hospital:

Autopsies	237
Surgicals	7,857
Frozen sections	446
Cytology	45,353
Haematology	244,326
Biochemistry	480,292

DEPARTMENT OF DENTISTRY

Patients:	
New	958
Return	1,059
Total procedures	2,355

DIETARY DEPARTMENT

Meals served:		
Out Patients	1,767	
Diabetic Day Care	1,764	
Scotia Room	506,018	
Patient	732,312	
Nurses Infirmary	5,423	
TOTAL		1,247,284

In Patients' diets:	
Special	133,527
Diabetic	31,356

Therapeutic Dietetics:

All patients, on both house and therapeutic diets, are visited daily by a representative of the Dietary Department.

Dietitian's visits to patients totalled 14,397
Formal Diet Instructions given totalled . 815

Kidney Unit:

Trays were sent to the Kidney Unit five days weekly. Diet instructions were given in this Unit five days a week.

Out-Patient Department:

There were 378 O.P.D. Clinic referrals handled.

Diabetic Day Care Centre:

Diabetic Day Care Patients	588
Diabetic Day Care Meals	1,764

Patients in this area received their nourishments three times daily as well as their meals.

School of Dietetics:

Number of Dietetic Internes who graduated in 1969 was nine.

Number of Dietetic Internes on course in the Integrated Program in 1969 was nine.

Number of Dietetic Internes on course in the Yearly Program (September 1969 to September 1970) is two.

SOCIAL SERVICE

Number of patients receiving Social Service in 1969		2,148
Number of in patients	1,182	
Number of out patients	966	
TOTAL	2,148	

Medico-Social problems treated (average per month):

Planning for nursing or post hospital care	60
Social and/or family problems	75
Planning for prosthesis and medication	86
Social assessment	97
Economic problems	105
Post hospital accommodation	17
Transportation to or from V.G.H.	26
Emotional problems related to illness	54
Rehabilitation planning	20
Individual personality adjustment	39
Other	70
Total units of service to paitents	19,800

Lectures	40
To student nurses	26
To medical students	11
To social work students	3
TOTAL	40
Consultative conferences and clinics	866
Department staff meetings	26
Addresses to community groups	26
Number of volunteer hours used	101

OUT PATIENT DEPARTMENT

Patient visits:	
Number of clinic patient visits	39,172
Number of private patient visits	1,674
TOTAL	40,846
Clinic patients:	
Number of new clinic patients	4,323
Number of return clinic patients	5,754
TOTAL	10,077
Number of private patients	1,674
Total number of out patients (includes clinic and private)	11,751

CLINIC STATISTICS

	No. of Patients Treated	No. of Patient Visits
Allergy	37	196
Anti-Coagulant	38	420
Arthritic	236	792
Chest	57	194
Chiropody	52	276
Dermatology	299	825

	No. of Patients Treated	No. of Patient Visits
Diabetic	175	1,770
Diabetic Day	124	596
E.N.T. (includes tumor visits)	528	1,189
Endocrine	84	310
Eye	1,553	3,603
Glaucoma	187	584
Glaucoma Test (private)	356	403
G.I.	41	65
Gynaecology	405	835
Gynaecology Post.-Op.	202	210
Gynaecology tumor visits (clinics transferred in August)	663	856
Heart	121	444
Haematology (includes tumor visits)	104	491
Hypertensive	20	83
Inhalation Therapy	60	2,319
Medical	1,112	3,966
Neuro-Surgery (includes tumor visits)	258	426
Neurology	237	549
Nutrition (started September)	5	8
Orthopaedic	724	1,923
Plastic Surgery	453	1,050
Psychiatry	1,336	8,678
Renal	12	40
Surgery	1,391	3,568
Special Arthritic	103	332
Special Cardiac	173	266
Special Chest	7	24
Urology (includes tumor visits to September)	515	1,499
Venereal Disease (discontinued in June)	146	382
Total number of clinic patient visits		39,172

HOSPITAL ADMISSIONS (OPD Cont.)

Referred for admission to Victoria General Hospital	1,008
Referred for admission to other Hospitals	220 (approx)
TOTAL	1,228

NURSING DEPARTMENT

Student enrolment:

Students in School the 31st December 1968		304
Class of '69	97	
Class of '70	111	
Class of '71	96	
TOTAL	304	

Admitted - Class of '72	159
Re-entered	6
Disqualified	5
Withdrew	19
Completed course	98
Students in School the 31st December 1969	347

Class of '70	108
Class of '71	85
Class of '72	154
TOTAL	347

Attrition rate:

Class of '69	nil	—	Total for 33 months .. 19%
Class of '70	2.7%	—	Total to date 25%
Class of '71	11.5%	—	Total to date 17.5%
Class of '72	3.1%		